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AUTHOR Shannon, John, Ed.
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ABSTRACT

This student newsletter issue speaks to the subject of baseball. The first article, on who rules baseball, discusses the problems that the developing sport had with gambling, and the struggle between the owners and gangsters for control of the game. The article describes the scandal involving the Chicago White Sox in the 1919 World Series and the resulting creation of the position of baseball commissioner who would act as judge and governor of the sport. It explains that the struggle between a powerful commissioner, the influence of gambling, and owners who have invested heavily in the game has continued for 70 years. A similar scandal with baseball player and manager Pete Rose went to a court of appeals that supported the baseball commissioner's power to discipline a player. Questions for discussion are included. a second article describes the Sports and the Law Junior High Jam held in Los Angeles in August 1992. This was the first time that the event had been held. It brought together 150 boys and girls from inner city schools and community centers in Los Angeles. The tournament combined academics, community service, and basketball. All three areas were counted in picking the most well rounded teams of student athletes. The newsletter includes a puzzle using sports questions drawn from baseball and the articles included in this issue. Other articles discuss differences in baseball between the United States and Japan, and high school athletic programs. (DK)

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SPORTS & THE LAW
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION
Fall 1992 volume 6 number 4

ED 368 598

In This Issue...

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CRF's Junior High Jam

Puzzle

Baseball: The All-American Game?

What Do You Think?

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AMATEUR ATHLETIC FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES

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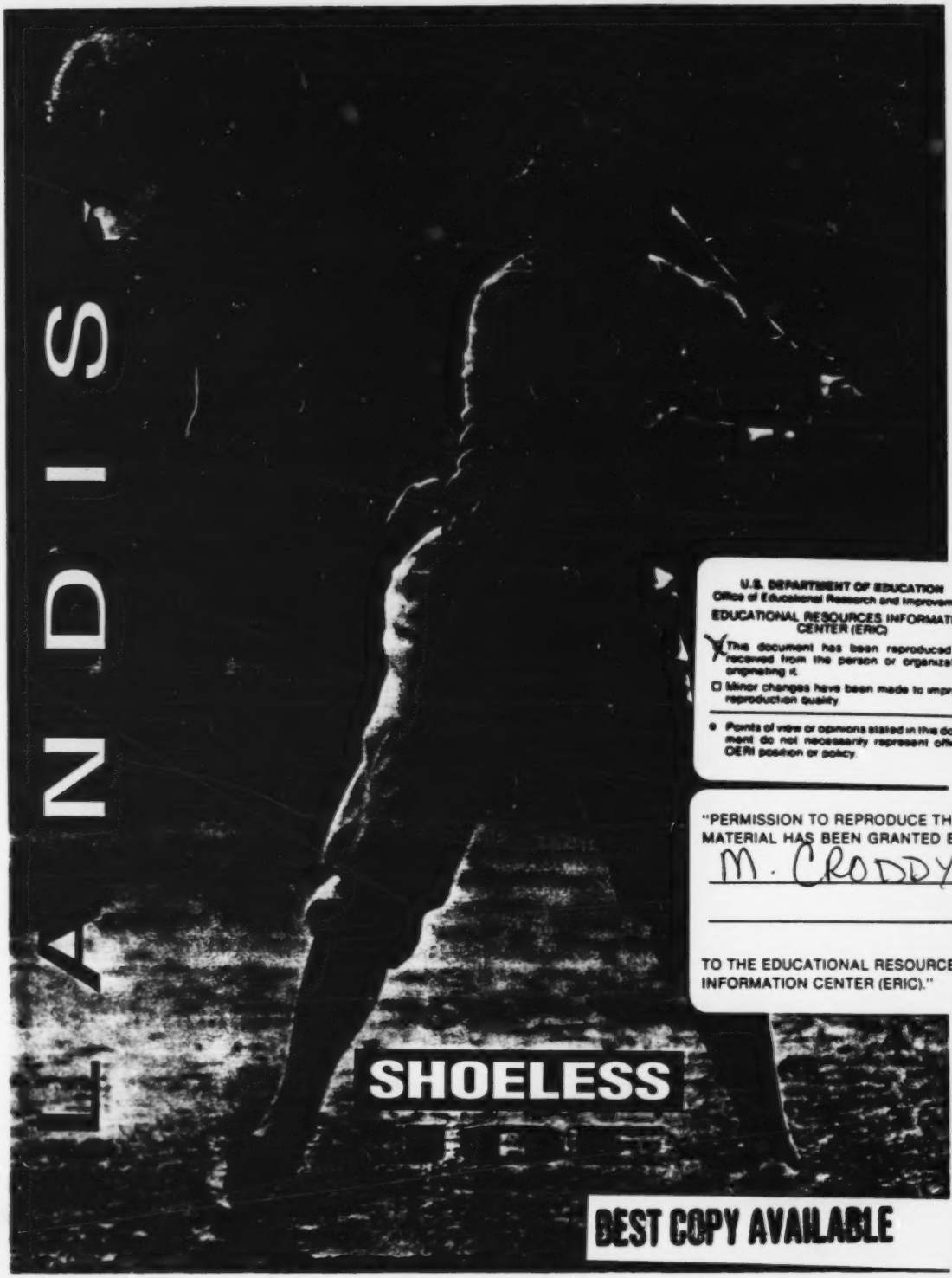

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"Shoeless Joe" Jackson was one of the greatest baseball heroes of his day, but he was thrown out of the sport in 1920 by the first commissioner, Kenesaw Mountain Landis (inset). See Page 2. (UPI/Bettmann)

Who Rules Baseball?

"Say it ain't so, Joe!"

According to sports legend, a sobbing little boy choked out those words to baseball star "Shoeless" Joe Jackson. Jackson had just testified to a grand jury about charges that he and other Chicago White Sox players had been bribed to lose the 1919 World Series. The eight players became known as the "Black Sox." The courts did not find them guilty, but all were banned from baseball for life.

That decision by the new baseball commissioner, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, was the first act of a long struggle over who would control baseball—the owners, the players, outside forces like gamblers, or a neutral commissioner. We still see echoes of that struggle today in the bitter fight between baseball owners and the former commissioner of baseball Fay Vincent, who was forced to resign this year.

In 1920, the owners created a strong commissioner because baseball was in serious trouble. The best team in baseball, the Chicago White Sox, had been beaten in the 1919 World Series by the underdog Cincinnati Reds. Sox fans saw mental mistakes, poor pitching, and many errors in the field. Since gambling and gangsters were a way of life then, many people smelled something rotten.

Ring Lardner and James Cruisinberry, two reporters from the *Chicago Tribune*, learned before the series that big money was betting on the Reds. They became suspicious. During the series, the reporters kept careful notes on any questionable plays. When they compared notes, they thought they could identify five players as probably crooked and three other possibles.

Other observers were suspicious, too, including the owner of the White Sox, Charles Comiskey, and the manager, Kid Gleason. But no clear evidence was found. Then, the next year, a former boxer spilled the beans. He told Lardner and Cruisinberry that the fix was set up by a notorious New York gambler, Arnold Rothstein.

Cruisinberry published the story in the *Tribune*, and it set off a grand jury investigation. The eight White Sox players named were "Chick" Gandil, Eddie Cicotte, and "Lefty" Williams, the alleged ringleaders, plus Shoeless Joe Jackson, Charlie "Swede" Risberg, Hap Felsch, Fred McMullin, and Buck Weaver. According to some of the players, they were driven to get involved because the White Sox owner Comiskey was a terrible tightwad. He made millions but paid them peanuts.

Some players admitted they had been tempted by the offer of bribes. But by the sixth game, when they hadn't received any payoffs, they felt they had been double-crossed by the gamblers and started playing harder than ever. They insisted that by the end of the World Series, they were all doing their best, but it was too late. No one will ever know for sure.

In 1920, the owners created a strong commissioner because baseball was in serious trouble.

The owners brought in Judge Landis as commissioner because he was known as a strong, honest judge. He made it his first priority to attack gambling in baseball. The big league owners gave him almost dictatorial powers in order to make a clean sweep. Landis wasted no time. The eight Black Sox players had been found innocent by the court. But Landis banned them from the major leagues to set an example.

Some observers called Landis the "czar" of baseball. He demanded that his decisions be totally binding and impossible to challenge. He held office for life. The owners attempted to question his authority once or twice, but they always backed down when Landis threatened to resign. This struggle between a powerful commissioner, the influence of gambling, and owners who have invested heavily in the game has continued for 70 years.

Landis was a fierce and honest judge chosen by the owners to drive the influence of gamblers out of baseball.

In 1989, Baseball Commissioner Bart Giamatti responded in much the same way Landis did to a gambling scandal. There were many rumors that superstar player and manager Pete Rose was involved in gambling. Giamatti did a preliminary investigation of Rose and found evidence that he placed illegal bets on professional sporting events, including baseball. Evidence showed that Rose even bet on his own team, the Cincinnati Reds, from 1984 to 1987. Giamatti planned a formal hearing.

Rose went to court to challenge the commissioner's authority. He felt Giamatti had prejudged him. Rose wanted a jury to decide, not Giamatti. The lower court

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agreed with Rose and granted a temporary injunction against the Giamatti hearing. A court of appeals, however, lifted the injunction. This final decision supported the baseball commissioner's power to discipline Rose.

Rose and Giamatti met and reached a settlement. The agreement stated that Rose had violated Major League Rule 21. This rule covers many violations, including betting on your own team. He was banned for life. The agreement also stated that Giamatti would not make any formal findings. Rose did not have to admit any guilt publicly.

With the agreement, Rose became one of 15 players who have been permanently banned from baseball. No one has ever been reinstated.

Fay Vincent was forced out as commissioner of baseball in 1992, the latest act in a long power struggle over who rules the sport—players, owners, fans, or an impartial commissioner. (UPI/Bettmann)

The Black Sox scandal of 1919 and the Pete Rose decision of 1989 were both about driving gambling out of baseball. On this issue, most baseball figures are agreed. On other issues however, there are major fights. The commissioner has power over many matters that are controversial, such as the role of the player's union, and the **realignment** of baseball. Realignment means moving some teams out of one division into another division as baseball expands.

In recent years, there have been changes in the balance of power between the owners and the commissioner. The commissioner's power has already been limited in some ways. The office is no longer a lifetime appointment. The commissioner now serves a seven-year term, which can be renewed. He must be approved by three-fourths of the owners. In Landis' time, the disapproval of team owners was meaningless. Today, however, with the large salaries that many players are paid and the huge investments that owners have made, the commissioner must also be concerned about the interests of the owners.

This power struggle was seen earlier this year. When Bart Giamatti died in 1989, Fay Vincent was appointed commissioner. He issued a decree calling for a realignment of the National League. The decree affected two teams in particular—he wanted to move the Atlanta Braves from the National League West to the East, and the Chicago Cubs from National League East to the West. The change made geographic sense, but it upset many long-standing traditions. Teams would not be playing against their usual rivals.

The Chicago Cubs decided to take the issue to court. They insisted the commissioner did not have the legal authority to make a decision like this. As the power struggle developed, the owners passed a resolution asking Vincent to resign. At first, Vincent vowed to fight, but then he gave in "in the best interest of baseball." He stepped down.

In this ongoing conflict between the commissioner's office and powerful team owners, Vincent is the third commissioner who has been forced to resign before his first term was completed. Others were Happy Chandler in 1951 and Gen. William Eckert in 1968. Another commissioner, Bowie Kuhn, was forced out of office in 1984 after two terms.

Some observers feel the real issue in the Vincent struggle was the upcoming negotiations with the baseball players' union. Some owners saw Vincent as too willing to give in to the players. In resigning, Vincent expressed his fear for the future of baseball. He believes the owners are looking for a puppet, who will serve only them, not the best interest of the game.

During his time, Vincent faced many controversial issues. He allowed the 1990 World Series to carry on despite earthquake dangers, he fought with Pete Rose, and he handled many labor disputes between the owners and players. Time and time again, Vincent refused to give in to the pressures of the owners.

The controversy over who rules baseball will probably continue. Professional baseball involves a lot of money and tradition, and many strong-willed people. The commissioner must consider the owners, players, and fans. All of these people have different wishes. The commissioner must do what he or she thinks is in the best interest of baseball as a whole.

Discussion

1. Do you think that it was fair for Judge Landis to ban the Black Sox from playing even after the courts found them not guilty? Why or why not?
2. In 1919, two journalists first broke the Black Sox scandal. Do you think the press should have a larger role in policing sports? Why or why not?
3. Do you think the outcome of Pete Rose's case would have been different if it were tried before a jury? Why or why not?
4. Do you think Pete Rose should be included in the Baseball Hall of Fame? Why or why not?
5. Should the owners have more or less influence over the commissioner's decisions? Why or why not?
6. The commissioner is supposed to act "in the best interest of baseball." Whose interests do you think are closest to this ideal—the players, fans, or owners? Why?
7. In places like Las Vegas it is legal to gamble on baseball and other sports. Do you think this is a good idea? Why or why not?

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JAM, JAM, HERE COMES THE MAN!

Rapper Heavy D's line in the Michael Jackson hit song ***Jam*** could have been for former USC basketball standout Duane Cooper. Cooper, the second round draft pick of the Los Angeles Lakers, helped present the Sports and the Law "Junior High Jam" on August 8 at Cal State, Los Angeles. The event was sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation.

This first-time event brought together 150 boys and girls from inner city schools and community centers in Los Angeles. The tournament combined academics, community service, and basketball. All three areas were counted in picking the most well-rounded teams of student-athletes.

ACADEMICS

Susan Philips and James Keipp, CRF staff members, help girls from Salesian Boys and Girls Club in the oral quiz "Transition." The quiz held during the tournament was based on social studies, the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, and sports and law-related materials.

BASKETBALL

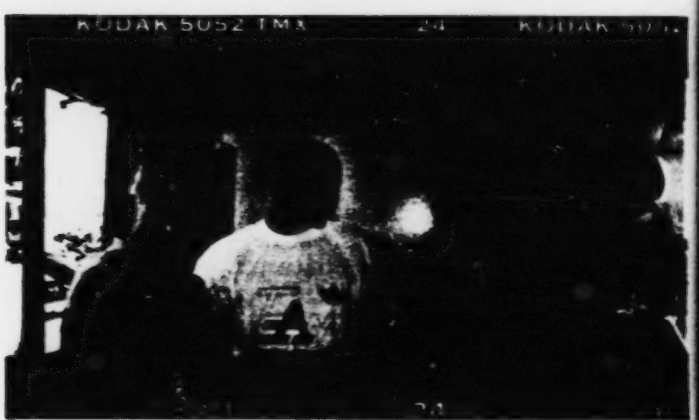
The competition was a round-robin for the girls and single elimination, with a consolation bracket, for the boys. Games were divided into 20 minute halves, with the clock not stopping for penalties except for the final five minutes of the game.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Andy Schwich, Sports and the Law program director, discusses ideas for a project with boys from Watts Boys and Girls Club. The objective was to develop new projects for the Sports and the Law program during the school year.

DUANE COOPER

Alan Friedman, CRF president, shares a laugh with Duane Cooper. Whether it was playing basketball, talking one-on-one, or signing autographs, Duane spent the entire day with the students. He shared his experiences with them on how to succeed in basketball, academics, and life.



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PUZZLE

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P B E S U B O R U Z K P A R T I C I P A T I O N

1. The last name of a superstar baseball player with a hitch in his batting swing. AARON

2. _____ ____ Jackson was a famous baseball player for the Chicago White Sox in the early 1900s.

3. The title of the person in charge of Major League Baseball.

4. On August 8, CRF held its first ever Junior High ____.

5. The Japanese pronunciation of baseball.

6. Fay _____ recently resigned as commissioner of baseball.

7. LAUSD's focus of their athletic programs is not just on winning, but on the benefits of _____.

8. Both the 1919 Black Sox scandal and the Pete Rose case revolved around issues of _____.

9. Baseball is the national pastime in both the U.S. and _____.

10. In Japan, the _____'s performance dictates how successful an individual player feels.

11. This year's Junior High Jam engaged students in competitions in academics, community service, and _____.

12. The last name of one of the first Americans to play baseball in Japan.

13. In an interview with Hal Harkness, he stated that he does not believe that professional athletes are good ____ _____.

14. Sadaharu Oh is considered Japan's _____ Ruth.

15. _____ is one of the legal mandates dealing with sexual equality in high school athletics.

16. Japanese baseball players begin their season's training in this month.

17. The nickname given to the eight White Sox players accused of cheating in the 1919 World Series.

18. The Japanese word for team harmony or spirit.

19. Dan Quisenberry is famous for his _____ style of pitching.

20. In 1989, Commissioner Fay Vincent issued a ___ for life from baseball against Pete Rose.

21. In LAUSD, a 2.0 _____ point average is necessary to take part in sports.

22. One of the differences between American and Japanese baseball is that in Japan, a game can end with a __ score.

23. The last name of the man who was brought in to rid baseball of gambling and organized crime.

24. The differences between Japanese and American baseball are due to differences in _____.

25. The last name of the former Cubs outfielder who left the Taiyo Whales mid-season to protest his removal from a game.

26. The full name of the Athletic Director for LAUSD.

27. The last name of an American pitcher who is still considered a superstar despite playing for a losing team.

28. The biggest problem facing LAUSD athletic programs is _____.

29. The Japanese word for foreigner.

30. Cruisenberry and Lardner worked for the Chicago _____.

31. Japanese term meaning earnest, steady, and faithful.

32. The last name of the Los Angeles Lakers' draft pick who played a major role at the Jam.

33. All Japanese players are trained to play according to the _____ style of play.

34. Judge Landis has been called the ____ of baseball.

35. In Japan, players believe that "the _____ is always right."

36. The tension between Commissioner Vincent and team owners arose mainly because of the commissioner's plans for _____.

37. Baseball is considered by many to be "The Great American _____."

38. The full name of Japan's Babe Ruth.

39. The realignment decree affects the Atlanta Braves and Chicago ___.

40. ____ _____'s case is a recent example of someone being banned from baseball.

Puzzle answers are on page 8.

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Baseball: The All-American Game?

I don't know whether the Japanese system is good or not. I just don't understand it.
— Bob Horner, former Atlanta Braves star, playing baseball in Japan

Baseball was invented in the United States. It's so important a part of our culture that we call it the Great American Pastime. Many Americans rank it with mom and apple pie as part of our national identity.

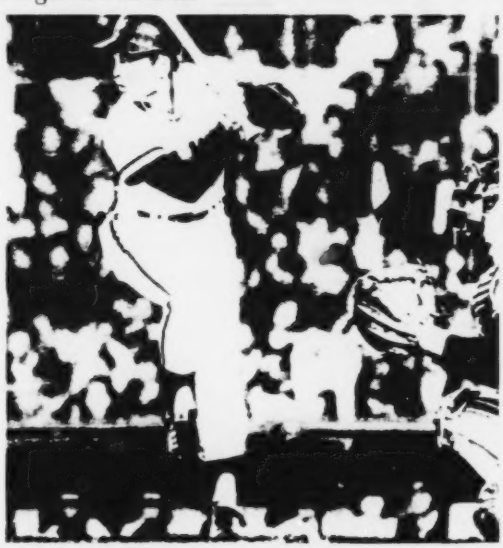
We are not, however, the only country that plays baseball. **Besuboru**, which is baseball in Japanese, is the national pastime in Japan, too. The Japanese have played the game for over 100 years. An estimated 20 million fans crowd Japanese stadiums every year to see teams like the Hiroshima Carp, the Yomiuri Giants, and other professional teams.

In 1962, American ex-big-leaguers Don Newcombe and Larry Doby became the first **gaijin**, or foreigners, to play in Japan. Every year since, a few Americans have played on Japanese teams. Some have loved it. But others have found it hard to adapt to a game that is different in surprising ways.

In 1987, the former American League home-run champion Ben Oglivie had a tantrum in Japan. He was totally confused by the way baseball was played and coached at the Kintetsu Buffaloes, and he flew home. "It was totally off the wall," he said. "I couldn't figure out what was going on."

On the surface, this reaction is surprising. Japanese and American baseball seem very similar. There are only a few small differences in the rules. The Japanese allow a game to end in a tie score, and they have a slightly bigger strike zone. But the differences lie underneath, in the way the culture has affected the game.

In the United States, players care about the team, but they also care about their own careers and their own records. In fact, critics say some American players care more for their own performance than for the team. In Japanese baseball, this individualism is strongly discouraged.



Sadaharu Oh was known as Japan's Babe Ruth. He hit a lifetime 868 home runs, far more than the American record. Because Oh was such a star, he was one of the few players in Japanese baseball history to be allowed this odd batting style that he called "flamingo batting." (AP/World Wide Photos)

Japanese baseball does not have "superstars" like America's Jose Canseco or Darryl Strawberry. The Japanese believe that no one person is more important than the team. They believe that a team wins, not when it has a star player, but when it has **wa**, or team harmony.

To preserve harmony, it is important in Japanese baseball for every player to keep his dignity, or save face. American star Bob Horner learned this the hard way. He began his Japanese career hitting home run after home run. Then suddenly he started getting a lot of called strikeouts from the umpires. "It's a big loss of face for a pitcher to give up a home run to a **gaijin**," his friend Leon Lee explained to him. "The umpires feel they have to equalize things." Horner learned to live with it, but many Americans do not.

This strong desire for saving face has led to another custom many Americans find odd. In Japan, tie scores are allowed if a game goes beyond four hours or 12 innings. In these long games, the Japanese managers actually encourage tie scores so that everyone can be rewarded for their extra efforts. No one has to be a loser.

Of course, Japanese baseball does have standouts. There have been many individual Japanese stars like Sadaharu Oh, who has been called Japan's Babe Ruth. These players are widely recognized by the fans and the media. But they are not superstars as they would be in the United States. They do not receive special treatment from other players or management. They do not get paid huge sums of money or live flashy lifestyles.

The team always comes first. If the team is doing well, the players feel successful. If the team is losing, no player feels successful, even if he hits four home runs in a game.

Maintaining the team's harmony, or **wa**, can be very difficult—especially for Americans who are used to questioning coaches and making up their own minds. In 1984, former Cubs outfielder Jim Tracy quit the Taiyo Whales in mid-season to protest his removal from a game by the coaches. He was playing well and felt it was unfair.

A Japanese player would not have questioned the decision at all. If a coach tells him to change his swing or his pitching form, he must do it, even if he feels it hurts his game. In the United States, players are advised by coaches, but each player can still choose to follow the advice or not.

Coaching styles are different, too. Japanese coaches train all players to follow a strict "textbook" style of play. A player like Dan Quisenberry, who was famous for his odd sidearm pitching, would not be allowed to keep his style in Japan. Such oddities are considered a distraction to the team's **wa**.

There is probably some value in both ways of thinking. In America, the Atlanta home-run king Henry Aaron could develop his own batting technique, which had a little extra hitch in it. He felt it fit his natural abilities. Perhaps his odd style made him a better batter. A Japanese coach, however, might look at Aaron and immediately wonder how much better he might have been with the proper form.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

High School Athletic Programs

The recession and deep budget cuts have affected sports in our schools. **Sports and the Law** recently talked with Hal Harkness, athletic director for Los Angeles Unified School District and commissioner of the city section of the California Interscholastic Federation. We asked his views on the role of school athletic programs.

S&L: Are professional athletes truly role models?

Harkness: Absolutely not. In fact, many are negative rather than positive influences on the high school athletes. Unfortunately, the kids pick up on the flash, the show, and all the glitz which I think is quite obnoxious. With the proliferation of sporting events on television, the high school athlete is exposed to incidents of show-boating, taunting, and violence which seem to have a negative impact on the students.

S&L: How do you prevent sports from becoming too important?

Harkness: The objective has always remained on participation, although some coaches and other adults do let their interests or egos interfere in pursuit of winning or success. We really don't have the problem here of a sport becoming too important because we do have a well-rounded assortment of sports to offer, and also due to the influence and availability of college and pro sports in the area, high school sports are not the only game in town.

S&L: What is the objective of athletic programs?

Harkness: Our goal is to provide a meaningful experience for every athlete that participates in a program. We hope to provide activities outside the usual classroom setting which are important for all students, athletes and otherwise. The focus of our programs should be concerned with the benefits of participation, not just with winning.

S&L: What are the major obstacles faced in your position?

Harkness: Certainly the number one problem is that funding is more and more difficult. As public funds have dwindled, it has placed greater demands for money within the overall instructional programs. If there are more budget cuts in the future, it will begin to have negative effects on the athletic programs. My major responsibility is to the coaches and administrators regarding the enforcement of rules and regulations. Unfortunately due to the time involved, the office is re-active rather than pro-active.

S&L: How do you respond to criticism of money spent on extra-curricular activities, including athletics?

Harkness: It is really nothing more than a question of value judgment. I believe that people who are of that opinion have a very short-sighted perspective of the problem and are not aware of the actual dollar value involved. The cost to effectively run the athletic programs is minuscule in comparison to the amount of money spent in running the schools. I also do not understand how anyone who was affiliated with sports programs in their youth would be opposed to providing the same opportunities they had. I don't see how we can deny the next generation these opportunities and short-change the students of today.

S&L: How effective are the attempts to improve academic standards among athletes?

Harkness: With the policy of a 2.0 GPA for eligibility in addition to mandates such as Prop. 48, administrators, coaches, and athletes have been forced to re-examine the emphasis to ensure academic success. Most of the responsibility falls into the hands of the school itself, but I think the message is loud and clear that steps have been taken to improve the standards among our athletes. We have and will continue to have many outstanding athletes who graduate and attend colleges throughout the country, many as honors students and on scholarships.

S&L: What is the future of interscholastic sports?

Harkness: I think the question that needs to be asked is whether or not every student is taking advantage of the opportunities available to them. Undoubtedly, the opportunity for the student athlete has been there. Regarding funding and possible budget cuts, the need for money from the private sector to offset the costs of running the programs has become a reality. The ideal situation would be to market all the high schools and have corporate sponsorship or underwriting to fund the programs if budget cuts continue to be enacted at the local, state, and federal levels.

"What Do You Think ?" is a continuing feature of **Sports and the Law,** offering a forum for the views of educators and sports professionals in Southern California. We are interested in your response to this column. Please write to the address shown on page 8.

Baseball: The All....

Japanese values have transformed baseball in other ways as well. In America, players chatter in the dugout and insult each other playfully. They play practical jokes, and they have temper tantrums. All this behavior is unwelcome in Japan. Fighting, arguing, and even complaining are not only discouraged but punished.

Dick Davis, the former Milwaukee Brewer, was suspended for 10 days in Japan and fined 100,000 yen, or $600, for rushing the mound to threaten a pitcher. Davis felt the pitcher had hit him on purpose with a pitch. Davis apologized, and said he was simply letting off steam. The Japanese media, however, called Davis' actions "unforgivable." To the Japanese, anger has no place in baseball. Everyone, including fans, coaches, and players, is expected to be respectful and courteous.

The Japanese train differently, too. In Japan, training is nearly a religion. The practice season begins in the freezing cold of January, with seven hours of physical workouts outdoors. Then there are evening classroom sessions, plus indoor workouts. Players run ten miles daily, including runs up and down stadium steps.

American players don't begin their spring training until late February, and only in warm climates like Florida and Arizona. Training only lasts four to six hours a day. And once the season starts, American players usually ease up. Japanese players often beef up their training routines after the season starts.

(Continued on next page.)

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(Continued from page 7)

Over the last 30 years, many American baseball players have gone to play in Japan. Few were prepared for the cultural differences in the game. Every season has seen at least one fight or controversy involving a **gaijin** player. Many Japanese find this surprising. They know the Americans are paid two to three times more than Japanese players. They are given easier training schedules, and some bring in their agents to negotiate contracts—which is considered very bad taste in Japan. Despite these special favors, many Americans seem to the Japanese to be lazy, rude, and disrespectful.

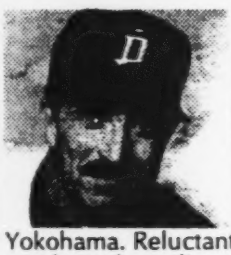
Of course, not all American players in Japan have negative experiences. Players like Felix Millan, Clete Boyer, and George Altman played for years in Japan without complaint. And they earned the respect of their Japanese hosts who described them as being **majime**, which means earnest, steady, and faithful. The players who succeed in Japan are those who do as they are told and keep their feelings to themselves.

By studying Japanese baseball, we can learn a lot about the importance of hard work, respect, and cooperative values in Japan. Just as American baseball shows the importance we put on values like individualism and freedom of speech.

Neither kind of baseball is "right." Each one fits the country's culture and values. If both countries would look at how we play the same game in different ways, we could learn to understand one another better.

Questions

1. Recently, many companies have tried to use Japanese management ideas to reorganize their factories. By looking at Japanese baseball, can you work out what some of these ideas might be? Do you think these changes would be welcomed in the United States?
2. Can you think of any changes that might happen to other American sports if they went to Japan? Think of football, basketball, hockey.



Mr. Baseball

The new Tom Selleck movie *Mr. Baseball* examines many of the problems Americans face when they play baseball in Japan. Selleck plays a big leaguer whose career is going downhill. His only offer to stay in baseball is from the Chunichi Dragons in Yokohama. Reluctantly, he goes to Japan and his pranks and rowdiness get him into trouble. But by the end of the comedy, both he and the Japanese players have learned a lot from each other.

PUZZLE Answers

1. AARON; 2. SHOELESS JOE; 3. COMMISSIONER; 4. JAM; 5. BESUBORU; 6. VINCENT; 7. PARTICIPATION; 8. GAMBLING; 9. JAPAN; 10. TEAM; 11. BASKETBALL; 12. DOBY; 13. ROLE; 14. BABE; 15. TITLE IX; 16. JANUARY; 17. BLACK SOX; 18. WA; 19. SIDEARM; 20. BAN; 21. GRADE; 22. TIE; 23. LANDIS; 24. CULTURE; 25. TRACY; 26. HAL HARKNESS; 27. RYAN; 28. FUNDING; 29. GAIJIN; 30. TRIBUNE; 31. NAJIME; 32. COOPER; 33. TEXTBOOK; 34. CZAR; 35. COACH; 36. REALIGNMENT; 37. PASTIME; 38. SADAHARU OH; 39. CUBS; 40. PETE ROSE

THE SPORTS AND THE LAW PROGRAM

This newsletter is provided to schools as part of Constitutional Rights Foundation's Sports and the Law Program. Sports and the Law draws on young people's natural interest in sports to stimulate their involvement in education, and provides teacher training, lesson plans, a textbook and accompanying videotape, a conference, and classroom visits by sports and legal professionals.

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(213)487-5590

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